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A.L.A. MID-WINTER MEETING, A REPORT
by MARK CRUM

Miami Beach was cancelled as a site for the summer conference in 1954 "due to the inability of Miami Beach to meet the A.L.A.'s anti-discrimination policy." (The announcement of this action was applauded by the audience.) Instead, Minneapolis, Minn. is to be A.L.A.'s host from June 20 to 26, 1954.

The pre-conference sessions for state and regional library association officers were very good. Mostly panel type programs, they yielded several valuable ideas for improvements. According to the thinking of those present, priority should be given the following functions or activities by state and regional library associations during 1953: 1) censorship 2) recruitment 3) elevation of professional standards 4) passage of library services' bill.

In discussing the question whether an association should have an executive board or a planning committee or both, it was pointed out that only nine states do not have some kind of a planning committee and that the chief advantage of such a committee is the continuity which it provides. District meetings within a state were discussed. Iowa was cited as one state which has an exemplary system of district meetings attended by the vice-president and president-elect of the association.

The problem of attracting and encouraging the participation of teacher librarians in state associations was also discussed. Proposed methods for solving the problem included: a workshop for teachers at the state association meetings; devotion of issues of state association publications to different types of libraries, including school libraries;appointment of school librarians to committees and as officers in the state associations.

Another subject of interest to us was discussed---the paid secretary for the association. Michigan, California, and Ohio have part time paid secretaries. Their duties are usually editing the publication and handling memberships. One delegate said that having a paid secretary made it easier to get a president because duties were less.

Regional associations were discussed briefly and the conclusion was reached that they ought to exist only if there are common problems requiring a joint solution. Among the responsibilities of the state association was listed that of having representatives present at non-library but related activities.

The second of the three pre-conference sessions for library association officers began with a consideration of the problem of a delegate to council representing the membership adequately. It was recognized that in many cases the delegate received no instructions, nor did he know his constituency intimately enough to reflect its wishes accurately. The process of reporting back to the association was acknowledged to be equally poor. An association manual was looked upon as one place where instructions to councilors might be profitably set forth.

In considering the relationship between A.L.A. and local associations one speaker pointed out that field workers from A.L.A. were needed as well as a headquarters file of resource people to be used on programs. The state association should keep its members informed about legislation of interest to the profession, including

detrimental legislation. Concerning joint efforts in public relations the desirability of a nationwide campaign for improvement in libraries similar to the current one for public schools and teachers was mentioned. National Library Week, educational T-V, and the UNESCO gift coupons were also mentioned as possible publicity projects for joint cooperation.

The regularly scheduled portion of the Midwinter meeting began on Tuesday, following the above described workshop. The action taken by Council is perhaps the most important business to be reported here.

The president's report indicated that the financial condition of our national association is the healthiest that it has been for years. One important problem which continues is that of a fair distribution of dues between the general and divisional interests of the association. The list of notable books for 1952 were presented to Council in the form of a report from the Public Libraries Division. (A.L.A.Bull.,Mar.1953, p.106-7 --Ed.) Reports were had from other boards and committees, but little new legislative action was taken by Council.

The Insurance for Libraries Committee announced a new set of values on books and certain other library materials. These are the first fresh figures for general application since those published by a previous committee in 1935 and repeated in Miss Singer's 1946 pamphlet on The Insurance of Libraries. These figures were published in the A.L.A.Bulletin, February, 1952, p.61.

President Downs reported that the character of the Midwinter meetings is changing away from programs towards business sessions. Whatever the character of the meetings, it is a thrill to be there, to see the leaders in action, perhaps to participate a little, and to see the machinery of A.L.A. in motion.

LIBRARY SERVICES BILL TO BE INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS. YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED.

The 83d Congress is well underway. The Library Services Bill will soon be introduced in both Houses of Congress. Among the sponsors, who will introduce the bill,is West Virginia's Democratic Congressman, Cleveland M. Bailey. Congressman Bailey is also a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, to which the Bill will be referred after introduction. In the Senate, a Republican sponsored bill will be re-introduced, and referred to the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee. Democratic Senator Matthew M. Neely, W.Va., is a member of this Committee.

The Library Services Bill provides: 1) for an authorized appropriation of $7,500,000 a year for a 5-year period, 2) for allocation of the appropriated money to the states on a matching basis. Each state would receive an original allotment of $40,000, with the exception of the Virgin Islands which would receive $10,000, plus additional funds based on the rural population of the U.S. This money is matched by the state on the basis of the per capita income of the state as compared to national per capita income, 3) that each state, to receive funds, must prepare a state plan for the further extension of public library services to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education, 4) that the Commissioner of Education shall administer the program under the Library Services Act. Librarians may write their Congressmen for copies of the Bill after its introduction to use in publicizing the bill.

Reports and discussions at the Mid-winter meeting of Coordinators, State Library Association Presidents, State Library Agencies Directors, and the Federal Relations Committee stressed the importance of this legislation. Director Julia D. Bennett of the A.L.A. Washington Office presented a comprehensive report on The Bill,and stressed the need for cooperative hard

work on the part of everyone. Theodore Waller, Managing Director of the American Book Publishers Council, reported on the makeup and climate of the 83rd Congress. Miss Bennett then presented a list of the national organizations which are supporting the Bill.

Mr. Omar Bacon, Huntington Public Librarian, was named W.Va. Federal Coordinator at the recent meeting of the Executive Board. Committee members from each Congressional District, who were also selected at that time, are listed with the other WVLA committee members.

In preparation for taking action on the Bill in W.Va., Mr.Bacon attended the Coordinators Committee session at Mid-winter meeting. "The Library Services Bill is of vital interest and concern to our state," declares Mr. Bacon. "Librarians should keep their patrons and communities informed of its progress, and should at every opportunity attempt to influence passage of the Bill." The Coordinators Committee will soon be organizing to aid librarians, trustees, and Friends of the Library in their support of the Bill.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU PROPOSED FOR W.VA. STATE GOVERNMENT

House Bill 490, to create a Legislative Reference Bureau in the state government was introduced on March 2d by Cecil H. Underwood, delegate from Tyler County.

Underwood's proposal would establish the bureau under the directorship of a man versed in political science and law and in methods of research and bill drafting. The general purpose of the bureau would be to provide legislators with impartial and accurate information on legislative problems and to provide bill drafting service. Among its specific functions would be comprehensive research and reference service, summarization and digest of information relating to legislation, preparation of reports setting forth social and economic effects of statutes, make investigations into legislative and governmental institutions, maintenance of a legislative reference room and library, and drafting of bills.

Mr. Underwood performed a study, out of which this proposal for a legislative reference bureau has grown, in connection with the preparation of a Master's Degree thesis at West Virginia University. This study has been published under the title The Legislative Process in West Virginia by the Bureau for Government Research of W. Va. University. A reading of Mr. Underwood's study reveals that he has a clear understanding of the need for such a legislative reference and bill drafting service as a means of improving legislation.

Librarians may feel it to be a misfortune that his thinking did not go one step farther to include the need of a strong state library. A well organized legislative reference department, as well as a strong extension department, might very suitably be established as units of a state library.

Until now there has been little need for the appointment of a W. Va. Library Assn. Committee on Legislation at the state level. The question now arises, have we members of the W.V.L.A. enough interest in this bill to try to influence its passage or the action taken as a result of it? Is this the time to point out to Mr. Underwood and the other legislators the desirability of tying this legislative reference service in with the service often expected of a first rate state library?

I invite your comment and suggestions. --- Mark Crum, Chairman
Legislative Committee

COLLEGE STATUS OF A LIBRARIAN
(excerpts from a speech)

by
B. R. Weimer
Dean of the Faculty
Bethany College

As an authority on librarianship, I am a poor biologist. ... Poor swimmer as I am, I am about to take the plunge and hope that some of the resultant splashes will prove to be sufficiently moistening and irritating to bring about a reaction. ... I am supposed to discuss the problem, or shall I say the desirability, of faculty rank for librarians. Maybe I should put it this way, the justification of faculty rank. ...

The college...library is the main laboratory for teaching.... ...

... Now, a laboratory is a place where work is being done; where apparatus is being used, where experiments are being performed. It is a place of intense and varied activity. ...The most useful piece of apparatus...is that gadget...made to fit into the greatest number of experiments in the hands of the greatest number of experimenters. Such a piece of apparatus cannot be kept in repose on a sanctified spot on a set time by a certain individual in a certain stereotyped way. At what am I driving, you are asking? This; if there must be conformity in a library, it must be conformity to the type of institution which it serves, and when I say the type of institution there is in my mind the clientele of the institution, that is, its students and its faculty. ... If the assumption is valid that the library is to serve adequately, the needs of the institution, then it naturally follows that the library and those in charge must be thoroughly conversant with the needs of the institution, sympathetic to its aims and its plan and thoroughly aware of the place of the library in the institutional program. This then would seem to indicate that the individuals making up the library staff...must have the same basic training as other members of the faculty. ...

I would say that the effective librarian must have a definite philosophy of education. He ought to understand what we mean by General Education.... Further, the librarian must be fully aware of the aims and purposes of the institution and the part the library plays in attaining these institutional objectives. ...

The acquisition of a philosophy of education and an appreciation of institutional objectives involves a rather wide sampling in the various areas of the curriculum on the part of the librarian. ...

... The librarian must be cognizant also of the teaching situations which confront the members of the faculty. The librarian must be aware of the various teaching methods. ... The use of audio-visual equipment in the teaching processes should be understood by the librarian and incidentally practiced by the librarian..."in his planning of the educational activities of the library." ... To make a long story short, if the librarian is to have faculty status he must also have the training and outlook of the faculty member. ...the librarian must be thoroughly conversant with the problems of the faculty member and vice versa. For if the librarian is to have faculty status in order to render a more effective service and give him standing with faculty members, he must understand the problems involved in curricula making which of course rests upon a philosophy of education; there must be an appreciation of educational objectives and a knowledge of testing procedures.... In other words the librarian must be able to understand the range of the teacher's responsibilities and in turn the teacher must be able to understand the librarian's. ... The case for faculty status...is lost unless there is mutual respect and understanding.... ...

College teachers in any field must possess a certain amount of specialized training peculiar to that field. ... So a librarian must have an adequate knowledge of those skills and procedures peculiar to his position. ... A librarian must not only know his books but he must also understand the procedures of ordering, processing, and circulating them. He should have a business background sufficient to understand budgets, appropriations and the wise expenditures of such appropriations. He must be alive to new developments in his field. ... From time to time he should make recommendations from the purely professional aspect with respect to the care and housing of periodicals, binding costs and selection of periodicals and books to be bound. Incidentally he should know when to discard certain books and periodicals and have the courage to do so. It must be possible at any time to make a change in the "housekeeping procedures" just outlined so that the library can make its maximum contribution to the educational objectives of the institution and give a significant impetus to the learning processes involved.

... (The library) belongs to the entire institution, -faculty, students, and perhaps alumni as well. Its primary motto is service. If a choice has to be made between the aesthetic, that is, a well ordered library administered in an approved traditional methodology, and service, then service comes first. ... There is no more reason for stagnation and the worship of the traditional in the library procedures than there is in any of the other fields of learning. ... as a college administrator, I would rather have someone who has a tendency to be the first by whom the new is tried than to have to deal with one who hesitates about (putting) the old aside.

It is not my purpose to set up a definite rank that librarians and staff members should have. But I can make suggestions. ... Certainly the head of the library should be given faculty rank in the professorial group. Assistant librarians should merit at least the rank of instructor. Further the library staff should in my opinion have the same conditions of tenure as the other faculty members.... The same general rules with respect to sick leave, retirement, attendance at professional meetings, and sabbatical leave should apply equally to librarians and other teaching members of the college...faculty. Further, membership on institutional and faculty committees should also be open to the librarian. His presence on committees should be sought after and not merely tolerated. He should feel as free to voice his opinion in faculty meetings as any head of department in the college. His salary schedule should be in line with that paid to other faculty members of similar rank.

Further, I should like to point out that the responsibility of the librarian for the extra-curricular program of the college is the same as that of any faculty member. He must be interested in the social life of the college. He must be willing to take a positive and definite stand on moral and ethical issues. His responsibility for character building is no less than that of any other faculty member. This involves also the same community responsibilities which other faculty members assume. ...

Faculty rank is something to be achieved. ... The librarian must see that he meets the standards set by the college administration for faculty rank. (He) is not entitled to faculty rank simply because he is a member of the library staff. He is entitled to faculty rank when his outlook is that of a faculty member, his perspective that of a college administrator, and his educational standards those of a professor.

(Continued on pg. 11)

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Nancy Matthews, Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling, Public Library News.
Mary Shipper, Potomac State School, Keyser, College Library News.
Hazel Fisher, Thomas Jefferson Jr. H.S., Charleston, School Library News.
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The Executive Board of the West Virginia Library Association met in Charleston at the Kanawha County Public Library on Saturday afternoon, January 10. All members of the Executive Board were present. The secretary's report is included elsewhere in this copy of WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES. (Secretary's report failed to arrive--Ed.) There are, however, one or two points which need to be discussed.

Plans for holding the Middle Atlantic Regional Library Conference in Atlantic City on October 15, 16, 17 are going forward. A meeting of the Presidents of the various state associations and committee chairmen has been called for early in April. A tentative program has been set up along the lines of a workshop, with meetings for various groups who may be interested in various phases of librarianship. There will be approximately fifteen group meetings, each with a leader.

West Virginia Librarians are urged to make their plans to go to Atlantic City for this conference. At the Baltimore conference several years ago, West Virginia had the highest percentage of total membership present of any of the states in the group.

The Executive Board voted not to hold a meeting in West Virginia this year, and they confirmed the decision of the members of the Association to hold a meeting a year from this Spring if there is not a quorum present at the Atlantic City conference.

-- E. Hugh Behymer, President.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

W.V.L.A. Committees, 1953.

Executive Committee
Mr. E. Hugh Behymer, President.
Mrs. Lila G. Adams, Pres.-elect.
Mrs. Edna Woolery, Secretary.
Mr. Charles A. Loudermilk, Treas.
Miss Virgie Harris, Chairman, College Libraries Section.
Mr. Mark Crum, Chairman, Public Libraries Section.
Miss Dora Ruth Parks, Executive Sec., W.Va. Library Commission.
Mr. Floyd W. Miller, Editor, West Virginia Libraries.

Membership Committee.
Mrs. Rachel B. Barlow, Chairman.
Mr. Charles Loudermilk, Treas.
Mr. Vito Brenni

Legislation Committee.
Mr. Mark Crum, Chairman.
Others to be appointed.

A.L.A. Councilor.
E. Hugh Behymer, Pres., W.V.L.A.

Constitution and By-laws Committee.
Miss Ethel Green, Chairman
Miss Ruth Figgatt
Miss Virgie Harris

Nominating Committee.
Mrs. Margaret S. Bobbitt, Chairman.
Mrs. Leonard Pack Drain
Miss Frances A. Alderson

West Virginia Libraries.
Mr. Floyd W. Miller, Editor.
Miss Marcella Kramer, Co-Editor
Mr. Vito Brenni, Business Manager
Miss Nancy Matthews, Ed. Asst.
Miss Mary Shipper, Ed. Asst.
Miss Hazel Fisher, Ed. Asst.

Federal Co-ordinator.
Mrs. Vivian Boughter, District 1.
Miss Bernice Headings, " 2.
Mr. Floyd W. Miller, " 3.
Mr. Omar Bacon, Chairman, " 4.
To be appointed. " 5.
Mrs. Cecil Graham, " 6.

Auditing Committee.
Mr. Gilbert G. Fites, Jr., Chairman.
Mrs. Adrian Belt
Miss Ora G. Bradbury

COLLEGE LIBRARIES SECTION

Miss Virgie Harris, Chairman of the College Libraries Section of the W.V.L.A., reports that the Curriculum Committee on Library Training is functioning with the same personnel as last year. The members are Miss Florence Reese, Chairman; Mr. Howard H. Lapham; Mrs. Vivian Boughter; Miss Carrie Brittain; and Miss Helen Robinson. Miss Reese is now preparing the work of the committee for the typist and subsequent distribution.

A new committee on Faculty Status for College Librarians has been appointed. Mr. Floyd W. Miller will serve as chairman. The members who have been asked to serve are Charles R. Knapp, Miss Bernice Headings, Mr. Howard H. Lapham, and Mr. E. Hugh Behymer. The chairman of the college section will sit in on the meetings. The problem of faculty status will be attacked from a different angle; and it is hoped that it will produce definite results.

The College Section members have, as individual librarians, worked for the passage of the W.Va. Library Commission legislation. This effort should be continued regardless of the outcome of the present legislature's action. West Virginians must be made aware of need for library service in the state.

COLLEGE LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY FRATERNITY TO BE ORGANIZED AT CONCORD COLLEGE.

An Alpha Beta Alpha chapter is to be installed at Concord College. The A.B.A. is the national undergraduate library fraternity. The purpose of the organization is to interest college students in library work as a vocation. The A.B.A. was one of several groups to win one of the $100 awards given by the Educational Division of Field Enterprises for the most effective recruiting in 1952. Awards were made at A.L.A. Midwinter meeting.

LIBRARY SECTION OF W.VA.ASSN. OF HIGHER ED. TO DISCUSS LIBRARY TRAINING.

The W.Va. Association of Higher Education will hold its Spring meeting at West Virginia State College, Institute, on April 2,3, and 4. The theme of the meeting is OUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION. An excellent program of speakers has been announced, including Dr. Benjamin Fine of the New York TIMES who will speak at the Friday evening session. Dr. Robert Oliver, Penn State College, will give the keynote address Friday morning, and Dr. Stewart Smith, President of Marshall College, will speak at the luncheon on Saturday.

The Library Section of A.H.E. will meet on Friday afternoon from 2 to 4. Topic for the meeting will be "Training in Utilization of Libraries and Bibliographic Apparatus, a discussion of techniques." Mrs. Vivian R. Boughter, West Liberty State College,

is the Section Chairman. The Program Chairman is Floyd W. Miller, Glenville State College. A round-table discussion on the effectiveness of student training in use of the library will be based on recent information secured by the questionnaire method from W. Va. college librarians.

PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Huntington Public Library.

Circulation:

The mid-year report revealed a rise of 19% in circulation over the corresponding period last year. Nonfiction circulation increased by 45%. Main library circulation alone rose 39% above the previous period.

Gifts:

Checks totaling $278.50, to be used for a ceiling projector and for books, were presented to the library by the Literature and Drama Department of the Huntington Woman's Club. The projector will be used for handicapped people in and out of the hospitals.

A gift of a talking-book machine was made to the library by Mrs. Irl Duling. Two machines are now in the library for trial use by the blind. The machine is to be used as part of the library's program of information about the blind and their needs.

Department News:

In January a series of story-hours were began in the Children's Department under direction of the Huntington Junior Story-Tellers League. Members of the League are grade and junior high school students. Attendance at the story-hours has been excellent. Records have been added to the children's collection. They are loaned for two-week periods.

Cataloging will begin the use of Plasti-Kleer covers on books this month; and Miss Prichard, the cataloger, has developed a simple processing routine for expendable items like the Little Golden Books, pocket-books, and pamphlets.

Sturgis plastic letters and numerals are being used in the Circulation Department for special signs and displays. To facilitate return of books during closed hours, a book slot has been cut in the main door. Circulation of pocket books has amounted to 10% of the total number of books loaned.

The Reference Department staff has begun reorganization of the pamphlet collection, changing its order of arrangement from chronological to one of subject classification. The clipping file is being weeded. A large collection of college catalogs is being assembled for use of high school seniors. Twenty new periodicals have been added, including the Congressional Index.

Kanawha County Public Library

The ground hog saw his shadow in Charleston this year, even through his sunglasses, but the exterior of the library shows unmistakable signs of Spring. A landscaping project sponsored by five local garden clubs was begun February 3, with old shrubbery being removed and new shrubs and trees being planted. Earlier, workmen had removed the dead vines from the sides of the building. Now, if we just knew a good antidote for pigeons---

During the month of January, the Kanawha Valley Art League displayed 23 paintings in the main reading room. Among other recent displays was a collection of old and rare Bibles and prayer books owned by a local citizen.

The Boys and Girls Department has been decorated in honor of the 50th birthday of Peter Rabbit. Children have been making birthday cards for display and entry into the department's birthday card contest. Judging will be done soon. Miss Brown expects a difficult time for the judges; there are a great many outstanding entries.

Ohio County Public Library.

Building Improvements:

Completely new shelving has been built in the former Reading and Periodical Room to house the expanding reference collection. This arrangement permits utilizing space previously unused for books, and provides greater facilities for research and study. Extra storage space was also added to the Children's Room by converting part of the adult periodical shelving into picture book cases.

Public Relations:

At a city-wide Sunday School Clinic for teachers, Virginia Ebeling and Nancy Matthews conducted a program on books and audio-visual aids available at the library. The film "The Library, A Family Affair," was shown; records were played and related to filmstrips that may be borrowed from the Wheeling Religious Film Service.

Gifts:

Dr. Paul Elbin, President of West Liberty State College and music reviewer for the Sunday News-Register, generously continues to donate review copies of records from Columbia and R. C.A. to the library.

Curculation:

The Bookmobile's juvenile book circulation has shown a steady increase through the Fall months, culminating in a 44% gain for December 1952 over December 1951. Additional school stops and a complete re-evaluation of book collections are considered responsible.

Clarksburg Public Library

Circulation:

A steadily increasing circulation, with the corresponding increase in activity, is keeping the library staff more than occupied.

Adult Education:

A class in Parliamentary Law is now being given by the library staff.

Junior Activities:

Saturday morning storyhour continues to draw the Clarksburg boys and girls to the library. Plans for two new programs are now in preparation. The first is a musical hour; and the other is a program of bird talks. A-V aids are to be used during the lectures so that the children can see and hear the birds.

W. VA. LIBRARY COMMISSION

LIBRARIES REOPENED IN JACKSON COUNTY

The Jackson County Library Board and the State Library Commission have reopened the libraries in Jackson County at Ripley and Ravenswood. Various organizations have spent much time and money in securing library service for the County. The County Court has been very cooperative in allocating funds for the expenses of the library until July 1.

On opening day at Ripley, the Woman's Club, the Junior Woman's Club, and the County Council of Farm Woman's Club were hostesses to 155 people. Mrs. Enoch Staats and Miss Vera Staats were joint chairmen of the reception committee. Mrs. L.E. Guincy has been appointed Ripley librarian.

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS ADDED TO W.VA. LIBRARY COMMISSION COLLECTION

Library patrons in Ritchie and Doddridge counties may now borrow phonograph records from their County Library. The recordings will be kept in Spencer; at least for the present, but will be delivered to borrowers by the bookmobile.

From time to time the Library expects to sponsor record concerts to introduce the collection to the public. Included in this well selected record collection is everything from the epitome of absolute music, as Beethoven's Quartet #4, to the mischievious adventures of our little friend Till Eulenspiegel, as presented in the symphonic poem by Strauss.

SCHOOL LIBRARY NEWS

ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!!!
CHILDREN'S AND SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

Have you joined C.L.A.? When joining A.L.A. be sure to indicate Children's Library Association.(No extra charge.) If you haven't received membership blanks write to Nancy Matthews, Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling,W.Va.

Benefits from membership???? YES!!! C.L.A. 1) has worked for more than 50 years toward improved standards; 2) provides for interchange of ideas, of especial value to the isolated children's librarian; 3) gives you an opportunity to vote for Caldecott and Newbery award winners; 4) has a number of committees which foster work with children all over the country; and, 5) provides each member with a valuable periodical (TOP OF THE NEWS) to keep you up-to-date in the field.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS: Clarksburg: Miss May Wheat Potter, the junior's librarian for many years, has left the staff. She has been replaced by Mrs. Joseph W. Burke. Wheeling: Carolyn Hansen, Reference librarian, Ohio Co. Public Library, resigned to accept a similar position in the Oak Park, Ill., Public Library. Mrs. Anne Hunt has assumed the duties of library assistant.

TRIPS: Four members of the Kanawha Co. Public Library staff took advantage of the excursion train to Washington for the inauguration. George Williams, Lorena Armar, Betty Jane Thomas, and Isabelle Teubert made the trip.

WEST VIRGINIANS AT MIDWINTER: Four public librarians attended the recent ALA meeting in Chicago. From Morgantown were Mrs. Paul Widem, W.Va. Libbrary Commission, and Mrs. Adrian Belt, Waitman-Barbe Public Library. It is rumored that Mrs. Belt became highly enthused over the plans for new library buildings. Mr. Omar Bacon of Huntington and Mr. Mark Crum of KCPL also made the trip. Since Mr. Bacon is WVLA Federal Councilor this year, he attended the Federal Relations Committee meeting in preparation for his activities. Mr. Crum gave special attention to the pre-conference session for state and regional library association officers. His report of that meeting appears on p. 1. Much of Mr. Crum's time has been taken up recently with the planning of the Adult Education conference to be held in May.

WEDDING BELLS: Miss Nancy Elnslie of Quincy, Ill.,was married to Kenneth E. Brown of the W. Va. Library Commission (Spencer) on February 15. Mrs. Brown attended Grinnell College (Iowa) and received her Master's from Columbia University. For the past year she was library assistant at the Nathan Straus Branch of the New York Public Library.

ADULT EDUCATORS TO MEET AT CAMP CAESAR IN MAY TO PLAN ACTIVITIES FOR W.VA.

West Virginians working in the field of adult education will hold a convention on May 8 and 9 at Camp Caesar to lay plans for an inventory of existing adult education agencies and programs, to discuss means of expanding and enriching present programs, and to decide upon the formation of a state association for adult education.

The group planning the convention consists of representatives from higher education, public education,women's organizations, and libraries.Mr.Crum, Kanawha County Public Library,has been representing the library profession in the planning meetings.

In the two days there will be four sessions, each one on a different theme. "Community Inventory to Assess Our Programs" is the topic for Friday afternoon; in the evening session the problem "Expanding Our Program in Adult Education" will be attacked. On

Saturday morning the theme is "Enriching the Quality of Our Adult Education Program" and that afternoon "Making This Conference Serve Us and Our Communities" will be discussed. The work of the convention will be carried on by means of work groups, discussion groups, and addresses.

Librarians throughout the state have a special interest in the activities of the convention. Adult education has been a program of librarians for many years. Opportunity is now presented W. Va. librarians to work with others from West Virginia who are interested in the same objective, and also to advance the work of libraries by presenting the library point of view and traditions of educational service to adults. The Saturday morning session in particular is devoted to what the library might contribute to adult education services.

Anyone interested in receiving literature on the conference, a detailed program, and reservation forms can obtain them by sending his name to Mr. Mark Crum, Librarian, Kanawha County Public Library, Charleston 1, W.Va.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA OFFER SPECIAL "LITERATURE KIT FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES"

The National Committee on School Relationships of the Boy Scouts has recommended for school libraries a select list of books that portray the basic philosophy and program of the Boy Scouts. The literature kit covers all three of scouting's programs: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers.

The kit is composed of the handbooks and manuals of scouting plus an annual subscription to BOY'S LIFE and two pamphlets about scouting in public and rural schools. Total cost of the kit is $8.00, a savings of $1.02. For further information write: Boy Scouts of America, National Supply Service Division, 2 Park Ave., New York 16.

ADULT EDUCATION ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE BEING SURVEYED BY ALA.

A grant from the Fund for Adult Education has made it possible for ALA to conduct a Survey of Adult Education Activities of Public Libraries. The aim is to disclose the extent of libraries' services in the field of adult education. Areas of 2500 population or over are included.

Director of the project is Mrs. Helen H. Lyman, who is on leave from the Buffalo, N.Y., Public Library Adult Education Dept. To aid Mrs. Lyman in planning and executing the activity a Policy Committee, composed of members from the ALA Adult Education and Audio-Visual Boards, was formed. Also taking part in the work are Malcolm S. Knowles, Administrative Coordinator of the Adult Education Assn. of the U.S.A., and Dr. Bernard Goldman, Dept. of Psychology, Univ. of Buffalo, who is a prominent expert in survey and statistical work.

A questionnaire was circulated to the public libraries in October, and from January through March intensive interviewing is being done in the field. The final phase of the project will be analysis, during April and May, of the returns of the questionnaires and the interviewers' reports. It is expected that the report will be published.

COLLEGE STATUS (cont.)

Under no circumstances should a librarian develop an inferiority complex. ... His is an honorable position and the library program is one of the important educational agencies on the college campus. The librarian has a responsible position in the college academic program and life on the campus. The library contributes not only toward vocational preparation for life but is a most important agency for introducing the student to the cultural and the esthetic which results in the building and development of a well rounded life. ... ...